

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

transmitting a signal having a first level of effective isotropic radiated power by a first wireless electronic device;

reducing a level of effective isotropic radiated power to a second level of effective isotropic radiated power in accordance with a logarithmic function if a response to the signal is received by the first wireless electronic device within a predetermined period of time.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 further comprising:

after reducing of the level of effective isotropic radiated power to the second level of effective isotropic radiated power, increasing a level of effective isotropic radiated power to a third level of effective isotropic radiated power if no response to the signal is received by the first wireless electronic device within the predetermined period of time.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the third level of effective isotropic radiated power is greater than the second level and less than the first level.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the first wireless electronic device is an access point.

11. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising:

increasing a level of effective isotropic radiated power to a third level of effective isotropic radiated power if no response to the signal is received by the first wireless electronic device within the predetermined period of time and after a predetermined number of retries.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein a rate of change from the first level of effective isotropic radiated power to the second level of effective isotropic radiated power is greater than a rate of change from the second level of effective isotropic radiated power to the third level of effective isotropic radiated power.

13-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the response to the signal is a beacon from a second wireless electronic device.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the second wireless electronic device is an access point.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the response to the signal is a message from a second wireless electronic device.

20-29. (Canceled)

30. (New) A method comprising:
receiving a signal from a first wireless electronic device;
determining a power level of the signal;
comparing the power level to determined power levels stored within entries of a conversion table, the conversion table including a plurality of entries associated with determined power levels and a plurality of entries associated with suggested power levels, each suggested power level corresponding to one of the determined power levels; and
setting the power level of the signal to a first suggested power level of the suggested power levels corresponding to a first determined power level of the determined power levels if the power level matches the first determined power level.

31. (New) The method of claim 30 further comprising:

maintaining the power level of the signal if the power level fails to match any power level of the first group of determined power levels.

32. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the setting of the power level includes increasing the power level of the signal if the first suggested power level is greater than the first determined power level.

33. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the setting of the power level includes decreasing the power level of the signal if the first suggested power level is less than the first determined power level..

34. (New) A method comprising:
detecting a beacon from a neighboring access point by a device;
determining a power level of the beacon; and
decreasing a power level for transmission of signals from the device upon detecting that the power level of the beacon is greater than a predetermined power level threshold.

35. (New) The method of claim 34 is conducted by the device being an access point.

36. (New) The method of claim 34 further comprising:
maintaining maximum power levels of received beacons from neighboring access points including the neighboring access point.

37. (New) The method of claim 35 further comprising:
periodically transmitting beacons from the access point at a designated power level greater than the power level to enable other neighboring access points to assess channel conditions.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the designated power level is a full power transmission level.